



THE HIGHWAY



VOLUME 4 — NO. 6

TRENTON, NEW JERSEY

JANUARY, 1947

CHRISTMAS SEASON OBSERVED WITH IMPRESSIVE PROGRAM

Employees Honored With Letters of Honorable Mention and Certificates of Merit

This year's Christmas exercise of the State Highway Department upheld the high standards of similar events in years gone by. Those who gathered in the board room of the State House Annex at noon on December 24 will long remember the impressiveness of the program.

Following the invocation by the Very Reverend Frederic M. Adams of the Trinity Cathedral, who was present for the fourth consecutive year, and thereby earned the title of "unofficial" Highway Chaplain, the entire gathering sang "America," under the leadership of William Kirk of the Real Estate Division. Helen Csanyi followed with a solo, "Silent Night," in which she accompanied herself on the accordion.

Commissioner Miller presented Certificates of Merit and Bond Awards to employees submitting outstanding suggestions. This feature is more fully covered in another article in this issue.

Following a second solo by Miss Csanyi, the Commissioner spoke on the significance of Christmas 1946 and of the work facing the Department. He dwelt upon the necessity of working out this great program of highway construction through harmonious cooperation.

Receive Merit Awards

Six Department employees received from Commissioner Miller the American Association of State Highway Officials 25-year Award of Merit. They were: Allen C. Ely, district soils engineer; Fred L. Gerard, district engineer of Survey and Plans; Charles A. Hurley, assistant chief auditor; Julius J. Newmark, special engineer; L. C. Petersen, assistant bridge engineer; and Cyril Wimpenny, office engineer.

Arrangements for the Christmas exercises represented the combined efforts of Robert S. Green and Frank Reddan. Mr. Green, as in former years, was in charge of decorations, while Mr. Reddan had charge of program arrangements.

A. Lee Grover performed his usual capable job in his capacity as presiding officer, or master of ceremonies. Incidental music was furnished by Albert Getz, George Kutch and Dominic Torrini of Fernwood.

Clayton Married For Fifty Years

Bridge Attendant and Wife Feted at Party

Walter S. Clayton, of Belmar, and Mrs. Clayton celebrated their golden wedding anniversary on Christmas Eve at the Stone Post Tea Room in Spring Lake with a dinner party given in their honor.

Mr. Clayton, a resident of Avon for forty years and a former postmaster there, a member of the Board of Education and a former councilman, was married to Miss Grace White on December 24, 1896.

In addition to being active in civic affairs, Mr. and Mrs. Clayton were among the first members of the Avon Methodist Church. They have seven children, four of whom were on hand with their families to celebrate the occasion. Three others, now residing in Illinois, were unable to attend, but sent greetings and gifts. Mr. Clayton, who is employed on the Route 4-N Bridge over Shark River, came to the Highway Department in May, 1937. He is a bridge attendant.

THE NEW YEAR

A new Year, a new Governor, a new Administration and a new Opportunity for public service!

But as we embark upon the new opportunity for service in the New Year, it is appropriate that we should have a word of "hail and farewell" to Governor Edge, who after 50 years of public service retires this month following his second term as Governor of the State of New Jersey. Listed among the outstanding accomplishments of his first administration was the establishment of the State Highway System; listed among such achievements in his second administration has been his sponsorship of a new program of Parkways and Freeways in our State as the Roads of Tomorrow.

As we say farewell to the retiring Governor we hail the new Governor, the Honorable Alfred E. Driscoll. Already he has indicated his conviction of the surpassing need in our state for a System of Parkways and Freeways as well as the modernization of our highways and of increased aid to our municipalities for municipal streets. We shall count it a privilege to work with him and under his executive leadership.

Beyond that the New Year will provide us all with a great new challenge for creative service in advancing the greatest highway program in the state's history. The first sections of the new system of Parkways and Freeways will begin to emerge during the year. Some modern improvements to our older highways will make these arteries better able to service the traveling public. New bridges will begin to arise to take the place of others that have failed. New construction of urban routes in some of our cities will reveal the pattern of relief for the serious problem of urban congestion.

Nineteen-hundred and forty-seven promises to be a year of important beginnings of new modern projects, the advancement of old projects and a general overall improvement in the maintenance of our Highway System which was held to a minimum due to wartime restrictions. In addition, this will be the second year of our Five-Year Plan for building Parkways and Freeways. With the support and encouragement of the Governor and Legislature we must keep that plan steadily to the forefront even as we reconstruct and modernize our old system.

Let's make 1947 a year of large accomplishments!

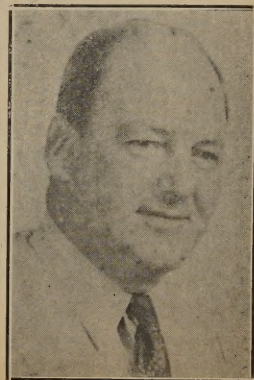
Spencer Miller, Jr.

State Highway Commissioner

Highway Accident Fatal to Eckert

Assistant Foreman Crushed To Death While Issuing Orders to Truck Driver

Walter Eckert, of 208 Thirteenth Street, Millville, an assistant foreman in the Maintenance Division, was instantly killed when struck by an automobile driven by Phillip P. Girardi, of 225 Grape Street, Vineland, on New Year's morning at 3 o'clock. The accident occurred while Eckert was issuing orders to a truck driver engaged in winter spreading operations on Route 54, near Buena.



WALTER ECKERT

According to Nicholas Mastrangelo, the driver of the truck, as well as Michael DeMarco and August Mazzarelli, who were in the cab at the time of the accident, Eckert had stopped his car about 75 feet beyond the truck on the right hand side of the road. He had then proceeded back to where the truck had stopped and was giving instructions to the driver when the car driven by Girardi approached from the opposite direction.

When near the spot where Eckert stood, this car suddenly swerved to the left and struck the front of the truck at a point where a snow plow blade was attached. It glanced off this and crushed Eckert against the side of the truck before turning over.

With Girardi at the time were two women and another man. It is reported that they were returning home from a New Year's celebration when the accident occurred. Mastrangelo was slightly injured in the crash.

Girardi was taken before Magistrate Redel of Landisville where he was fined for careless driving and bound over to the Grand Jury on charges of reckless killing by automobile. He was later released on bail.

Eckert came to the Highway Department in 1929 and had been employed continuously since that date. He is survived by his widow, Viola, and one young child. On behalf of employees everywhere, THE HIGHWAY extends deepest sympathies.

Name Lipari President for Fourth Term

The State Bridge Employees' Association, Inc., held their annual election of officers recently and report the following results: James Lipari of Belmar was again named to the presidency. This will mark the fourth time Mr. Lipari has been chosen to head this group of Highway employees.

Others elected are: Harold Llyod of South Amboy, 1st vice-president; Charles Simonton, 2nd vice-president; Ross Bateman, 3rd vice-president; Orville Stillwell, recording secretary; Harry Ober, financial secretary; and Harold Vaughn, treasurer. Donald Thompson and Phineas Marr were elected as trustees for three-year terms.

HIGHWAYMEN CITED AT CHRISTMAS PARTY



This is the group of Highwaymen who received recognition at the annual Christmas gathering. From the left they are: Frank Carfagno, G. C. Jorgensen, Clifford Somers, David Rogers, Rudolph Vogel, Harry Fowler, Preston Gano (front), Charles Hurley, Julius Newmark, Commissioner Spencer Miller, Jr., Cyril Wimpenny (front), Harold Giffin, Robert Green (front), and Robert Blanchard. Carfagno and Vogel received Certificates of Merit and Saving Bonds.

THE HIGHWAY

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A TRAGIC LESSON

The shocking and tragic death of Walter Eckert should convey a message of vital importance to every Highwayman working along the roadsides of New Jersey. This valued and esteemed employee might still be alive had he observed a most elemental rule of safety. At the time of his death, Eckert was supervising a cinder spreading operation and had stepped from his car to give instructions to the driver of one of the trucks engaged in this operation. Instead of walking around the truck and giving instructions to the driver from the off-the-road side of the vehicle, he stood on the roadway side. It was while in this position that a careening automobile crushed him against the truck.

Employees who have occasion to travel over our highways daily will bear witness to the frequency with which this fundamental safety rule is violated. It should be self-evident that a person standing in or near the highway is in ever-present danger of being struck by vehicles traveling in either direction. The insignificant amount of time and effort involved in walking around the truck and talking to the driver from the off-the-road side pays big dividends. Furthermore, it should be a basic desire of every employee to put as much distance and as many obstacles between himself and speeding traffic as is practical under the circumstances.

If a lesson has been learned from Walter Eckert's death and similar tragedies are thus prevented in the future; if through this untimely passing of a fellow worker others can be saved, then and only then can it be said that his life was not a wholly unnecessary sacrifice.

EQUIPMENT ITEMS

JAMES O'ROURKE

Oh, for the life of a fireman. Jack Mountford became a full fledged member of the White Horse Fire Department. Upon hearing a siren blow during the night, Jack jumped out of bed, donned his clothing and set forth as a savior of the community. Upon reaching the firehouse, he found that the siren blowing was from a neighboring company. Two nights later, hearing the sound of the siren again, Jack was not going to be fooled this time, so he stayed in bed. Yes, you guessed it. The White Horse Fire Company was on the spot this time and a house burned down. To make matters worse, five or six of the neighbors called Mrs. Mountford on the phone requesting details of the fire. However, we feel sure that Jack will get over his rookie days and the White Horse Fire Company will be proud to have him listed as one of their most active members.

Sympathies of Fernwood are extended to Jacob Beers, chauffeur, on the death of his sister who passed away at her home in Trenton on December 14 after a short illness.

Through the flower fund of Fernwood, baskets of fruit were provided for the following Fernwood employees who were on the sick list at Christmas time: Donald McNeil, Leon Anton, Gilbert Ettenger and Orlington Stenson. Don McNeil has since been released from the hospital and allowed to return to light duty.

Joy reigned in the home of Bill Rochford over the New Year holiday season. The occasion was the release and return home of his youngest child, Sally, who for the past sixteen months has been a patient at the Bacharach Hospital in Atlantic City, undergoing treatment for infantile paralysis. While not fully recovered, Sally showed such marked improvement that the doctors permitted her to return home and to school. Bill cannot find words to express his gratitude for the care and treatment accorded to his daughter.

as well as the many courtesies extended to him on his visits to the hospital.

Grover Rhodes, Charles Jones, Charles Hart, Howard Kane and Merton Lawrence went into the woods with the expectation of getting some venison. However, none of them got so much as a shot at a buck. Lawrence reported seeing as many as 54 does in one herd, but no buck. Grover Rhodes' comment was, "That was a lot of ladies without an escort."

Santa Claus was on the job bright and early Christmas when he delivered a brand new Oldsmobile sedan to Paul Pettio of Fernwood. It looks as though Paul will be enjoying a few vacation trips to Canada.

PROJECTS PARAGRAPHS

E. L. MEYER

The Projects Division wishes to express its sympathy to Inspector Leslie Keating of Matawan who recently lost his mother. Death occurred on December 8 after a brief illness in the Adirondack Mountains.

John Houman and his wife have just returned from a vacation in Florida. The highlights of the trip were Christmas in the sunny South and a drive down the Oversea Highway to Key West.

On December 30 the Projects Engineers tendered their annual Christmas party to the employees of the Projects Division. This year the party was held at the Capitol Rod and Gun Club at White Horse, and was a complete success. A buffet lunch was served and thoroughly enjoyed by all of the forty or more persons present.

The office force again wishes to thank the Engineers for another fine affair.

REAL ESTATE REPORTS

HERMAN KRAMER

Bill Hancock, as usual, got his deer. Bill is our No. 1 Nimrod

Morris Balbresky and Herman Kramer entertained the girls of their office at a Christmas luncheon at Weinmann's.

Ina Revoire and Jean Trexler spent part of their vacation doing their Christmas shopping. We'll bet it cost them more than a trip to Florida.

John Walklet waited three years to take a vacation of one week. We regret to report that he was ill during most of the time.

June Walters (nee Nelson), formerly of the Legal Division, is the proud mother of a baby boy.

Lem Seale visited the gang in the Title Division and had lunch with his former co-workers.

Tony Esposito's New Year resolution: No smoking, no drinking, no women. A new halo has been ordered.

John Watt has returned to his desk after a recent sick spell.

Kirk Schanck bought a house two years ago. There will be a housewarming most any year...

Named Projects Engineer

E. E. Reed, supervisor of State Aid Projects, announces the appointment of Paul F. Davis as State Aid Projects Engineer for Somerset County, effective immediately. The vacancy was created through the resignation of Thomas B. F. LaBar who left the Department employ to engage in private business.

Mr. Davis came to the Highway Department in 1928 and has for some time acted as projects engineer in Union County. He will continue in this capacity along with his new assignment.



According to legend, a strange tribe of Indians once roamed our western plains. A peculiar feature of these Indians was that half of them had white feet while the remainder had feet that were bright red. Strange as it may seem, THOSE WITH WHITE FEET ALWAYS TOLD THE TRUTH, WHILE THOSE WHOSE FEET WERE RED ALWAYS LIED.

One day a traveler looking for directions encountered three of these Indians standing in a pool of mud. Desirous of finding an Indian with white feet, he said to the first one, "What color feet have you?" The Indian replied in his native tongue which the traveler could not understand. Thereupon the second Indian, noting that the traveler was perplexed, pointed to the first Indian and said, "He says he has white feet." The third Indian hearing this translation pointed to the second Indian and said, "He has red feet." There ended the conversation.

Now the problem is:



SURVEY and PLANS

FRED C. CLAUS

WOODLYNNE PARTY



The Woodlynn office sent us this picture of their Christmas party. It shows Jack Ayres dressed as Santa Claus and about to distribute gifts to the rest of the fellows who are gathered around him. The tree was a present from the survey party on the Westville job, while Tom Pierce provided the trimmings. Wilson Sharpe presided as master of ceremonies as well as Sergeant at Arms.

In the photo which, incidentally, was taken by Wayne Tusing, the front row shows: Al Hinken, Bill Hurley, A. R. Heintze, Bill Reese, Joe Minnick and Ed Brewer. The remainder from left to right are: Wilson Sharpe, Walter Kruch, John Gerecke, Sam Johnson, Jack Ayres, Jim Flynn, Bob Mountford, Joe Philpot, Howard Menke, Jim Fitzgerald, Charles Franklin, George Ellis, and in the rear Tom Pierce.

WOODLYNNE

Bill Hurley

Frank Shoemaker has made a New Year's resolution, "Not to settle any more arguments."

J. Walter Kruch has again joined our office force after several years' absence. He is now an assistant highway engineer. Welcome back, Walt.

Joe Minnick, another G.I., reported here for work on December 6. Joe is a very likeable fellow and with five years of experience in the Camden City Engineer's office, fits in very well here. Good luck, Joe.

Morris Grimes, one of our retired resident engineers, visited this office just before the holidays to extend to all the season's greetings and, for the benefit of his many friends in the Highway Department, Morris is enjoying the best of health and feeling fine.

UPPER MONTCLAIR

Frank Spagnola

Here we are, friends, on the new Life Highway No. 1947, headed for what? For progress, of course. So let's go, fellows. Our aim—better and better highways.

Sorry to report that Matchett didn't get his deer last month as promised, but like a true sportsman he says: "Wait 'til next year."

Charlie Matthews apparently didn't get his usual box of cigars for Xmas... so we still have to suffer with his pipe.

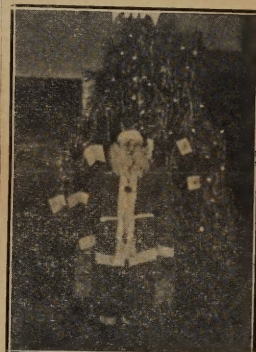
The shirt and tie business thrived as usual over the Xmas season. How many did you get? Hmmm? OUR office is sporting a variety.

Rodger Coupe has a new C-3 Argus camera, a dandy. He is now more picture-conscious than ever. He and Herb Englishman spend noon hours discussing the interesting features of this hobby.

Harold Kettlewood finally got his wish—a snowfall. You see, he built a homemade steel plow, attachable to his farm tractor, and now, after its initial test, he is satisfied that it works.

Marino, Amento and DiGiacomo make a fine vocal trio. The writer can attest to the fact—heard them not so long ago at a Christmas party. I might add that Fuca's occasional accompaniment did not harm.

Have you noticed how well Kunkler looks since he's been married and became a father; and



Here is Santa and the tree at Woodlynn. The gifts are still in place in this picture.

Demarest, newly married not too long ago, is putting on weight.

wing, Engineering aide, resigned. Sorry to report that Bob Loch from the Department on December 31. Reason—to continue his schooling.

Welcome to the Department: Henry C. Barberis, Engineering aide, who started January 6, first assignment to Marino's 6-22A crew; and Art Bruining, the same day, who was transferred from Marino's party to that of Neville on the S-3-Grading jobs thru Clifton and Rutherford. (Art, by the way, was formally engaged last month to a very lovely young lady. Good luck to you, boy.)

CRAWFORD

Howard F. Koons

A son, Robert William, was born to Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Vanderhoof of Rockaway on December 7, 1946. Van now has a grand family of children, six to be exact. Others to become fathers were Thomas Reilly, Engineering Aide, of Orange, and Henry Meyer, Senior Highway Engineer, of Dover, daughter and son respectively. Congratulations to you all.

Nichols Tancordo, Engineering Aide, Foster Lance and James Roper, junior Highway engineers, each married recently, while William Beck's wife arrived from England. The marriage took place a few weeks ago while he was in service.

David and Christopher, sons of Colonel and Mrs. Walter L. Braybrooke, are enrolled in courses at

(Continued on Page 3)

Your M. C. presents— THE LADIES... Bless Them

The "calm which precedes a storm" has been reversed in the instance of the Highway-ites. The casualties of the grand finale of the holiday season attempt vainly to conceal their identity. Low resistance evidenced by lethargy, voices ranging anywhere from a note to an octave lower, red noses, Kleenex and Brown's mixture are a dead give-away. As a result, the mere question, "What's new and exciting?" evokes not even a glimmer of recognition. As a further result, your M. C. cannot begin to list the "grippy, croupy, wheezy" victims—in which lot we beg to be included—but instead hope that by this reading everyone is well on the way to recovery and have fully awakened to "when winter comes, spring can't be far behind." (With kind permission of the copywrite owners.)

Hoping the old superstition holds true that if the first person to cross the threshold at the beginning of the year is of the male species, good luck will follow the year thru, we make our first item of 1947 the announcement of the birth of a son, John, to **June Walters**. "Jackie," as his friends will call him, was born Friday, January 3. Congratulations and best wishes to the proud parents!

It was a pleasant surprise to have **Helen Disbrow** return from her leave sooner than anticipated. We are looking forward to having **Frances Martin**, who is absent from the Department on leave, rejoin us in another month.

Our sincerest sympathy is extended to **Florence King** on the recent loss of her sister.

Bye now.

Survey and Plans

(Continued from Page 2)

Harvard and Annapolis, respectively. They have been at home in Bonton over the holidays.

James Roper of Jersey City, **Edwin Dayton** of Plainfield, **Alexander Kay** of Roselle Park, **Thomas Reilly** of Orange and **Harry Bonitz** of Bonton, are enrolled in the cooperative course at Rutgers University.

Emil Benoist, resident engineer, has been transferred to construction on Route 4 (Parkway) Section 6, Central Avenue, Clark Township to Route 28, Cranford Township. **August Seber** is assisting **Benoist**. **Joseph Whalen** is at present with the Parkway Bureau on Section above noted.

A Christmas party was held on Tuesday afternoon, December 24, by the office personnel. A good time was reported by all present. **Emil Benoist**, **August Seber**, **Joseph Whalen** and **William Pfister**, Drainage Engineer, dropped in to help us celebrate.

TRENTON Alex Cohen

At the annual Christmas party several employees of this Division were recipients of recognition. **Rudy Vogel** received a Bond Award plus a Certificate of Merit.

On Radio Committee

Superintendent of Maintenance **Alex W. Muir** has been appointed to membership on the American Association of State Highway Officials' Radio Committee. This committee is in reality a sub-committee of the Committee on Maintenance of the AASHO, but operates as a special committee.

The use of radio by State Highway Departments offers many advantages in communications, especially during snow removal work. The day may not be far off when supervisors and foremen can be reached regardless of the section of New Jersey they happen to be traveling in at the time.

Administration Division

ARTHUR EGAN

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Rice celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary on January 1. The Rices held open house to some eighty guests who came to offer their best wishes. Congratulations and best wishes of the Administration Division are also extended to Mr. and Mrs. Rice.

Marven Howell and members of his staff held their annual Christmas dinner at Trionfetti's. In addition to Mr. Howell, those present were **Harold Rice**, **Cyrus Card**, **Harold Jamison**, **Harold Palmer**, **Frank Allen**, **Dave Rodman** and **George Dederick**.

Gene Palmer bagged a six-point deer while hunting on Federal Twist Mountain in Hunterdon County.

January 5, 1947, saw the birth of a new "Champ" weighing 7½ lbs. The newcomer easily dethroned his father, **Rizziero (Champ) Cinia**, for the title. We might add that the new Champ was greatly aided by his mother, **Josephine**, formerly of the Mail Room. We congratulate **Joe** and **Champ** on the new arrival and wish the new Champ many successful years.

Members of the Cost Department held a Christmas party at Buckley's Inn, Trenton. Following a delicious turkey dinner, an evening of dancing was enjoyed. Attending were: **Marilyn Siddall**, **Mable Beans**, **Claire Laczoni**, **John Gulch**, **Frank Ricketti**, **Leonard Leighton**, **Frank LaComick**, **Frank Suchocki** and **Frank Kimble**.

We extend our sympathy to **Florence King**, whose sister passed away recently.

We note with interest the name of **Neil Kennedy** in the number four position of eligibles for appointment to the Hamilton Township Police Department. Should **Neil** decide to make police work his career, the Hamilton taxpayers will be fortunate in securing the services of a very capable young man. **Neil's** fine record with the Marines in the rugged Pacific campaign greatly qualify him for this type of duty.

Mr. and Mrs. Otto Peterson were recent visitors with relatives and friends in Columbus, Ohio.

File Room Chit-chat: Fifty-three years of loyal and efficient service are represented in the persons of **Ernie Birch** and **Eddie Ristow**. **Ed** takes pride in boasting of being the youngest 25-year member of this Department. **Miss Milt Herbert** and **Lou Ulla**, star witness at the Montgomery-Mouzon lightweight title bout. **Bob Fleming's** chagrin as he sobbed, "Oh, Deer!" when the venison carcass eluded his labyrinthine pattern of buckshot.

while **Messrs. Giffin, Gerard** and **Fowler** received Honorable Mention.

A change in office arrangement finds **Messrs. Claus and Gerard** in Room 320 and **Ralph Fisher** and associates in Room 320-A. You enter both by the same door.

Very sorry to report that **Mrs. Charles Temperley** is critically ill at her home in Washington, N. J. For a number of weeks **Mr. Temperley** has been absent in order to aid in making her as comfortable as possible. We sincerely hope that she soon will take a turn for the better.

Frank Armstrong has been pinch-hitting for **Temperley** during the latter's absence.

Maintenance Men Buy Bonds

The war may be over but the field forces of the Maintenance Division are still buying many bonds under the payroll deduction plan. These hourly employees last year purchased a total of \$16,643.25 worth of United States Savings Bonds, according to information received from Chief Paymaster **Clyde Case**. This is a most noteworthy record and will pay off handsomely in the years to come. Keep up the good work, fellows.

Credit Union Meeting

The 4th Annual Meeting of the Highway Credit Union will be called to order at 4 p. m., Friday, January 24, 1947, in the State Highway Board Room, State House Annex. Officers are to be elected to serve on the Board of Directors, Credit Committee and Examining Committee. The Nominating Committee has presented the following slate: For the Board of Directors, **Fred M. Quinn**, **John A. Kilpatrick** and **Mary F. Mangine**; for the Credit Committee, **Otto Seggel** and **Robert E. Simon**; for the Examining Committee, **Ann Manion**, **Frank O. Skillman** and **John H. Patrick**. Election polls will close at 5 p. m. All members are urged to attend.

PLANNING SURVEY

JOSEPH NATALE

NEWARK

Joseph Natale

About the Christmas party... With such men as **John Chitano**, **Fred Fleming**, **Dick Hyle**, **Dick Uth** and **Bob Mullin** working out the many details for the party, it could not be anything but successful. It was quick to start and slow to break up, so we must have been having a good time. The food was good, and there was ample for all. The music was in keeping with the season (many thanks to **Chief Berberich**). All were there to enjoy themselves and they did. As usual, **Freddy Guenther** led the vocal group, ably (?) assisted by practically everyone. We had the usual (always welcome) visitors and a few new ones. Galety and harmony prevailed, business formalities and worries were nonexistent, the Christmas spirit filled us all and—come around next year, girls, some of the boys like to dance.

A welcome is extended to the following men recently added to our staff: **Vincent J. Vigorito**, **Paterson**; **Kenneth Foster**, **Mahwah**; **Donald Smith**, **Allendale**; **Joseph Caggiano**, **Newark**; and **Lloyd Kline**, **Flemington**. May you like your new work and, in the course of time, even get to like us.

Juan Delgado finally got his new Pontiac. "Del" actually refused two previous cars because of the colors, which probably didn't match the Florida foliage at this time of the year.

Al Maspoli just returned from his vacation. **Al** has not been feeling too well of late. We have an idea that a tour of Switzerland in his new Oldsmobile (still on order) will do wonders for **Al**—if he keeps his mind on the driving.

Walter Yucho is a very changed boy. Since he returned from his vacation he has been very quiet and industrious, with hardly a trace of the old verbosity. **Marriage** really does change people.

That Christmas parcel **Johnny Annucci** had to deliver recently was so large that we are still wondering whether **Johnny** carried the package or the package carried **Johnny**. Anyway, it was **Johnny** that came to work the next morning.

We wonder what there is about dropping filled thermos bottles that causes such mirth. But **Johnny Armitage** wouldn't know—it was his bottle.

Wanted—One complete set of cabinet maker's tools, so we can keep **Louise Becker's** swivel chair in good shape. A good cabinet maker might also help.

We wish to reassure **Eather Petti** on one point. Those peculiar sounds that follow her around occasionally are only the playful barks of friendly puppies and not the howls of voracious wolves.

TRENTON

Fred Quinn

George Mendez's recent bout with a faulty zipper really tested the mechanism ability of the staff. No individual can claim that he solved the problem alone, and although notes were taken of each step in the procedure to free **George**, the method cannot be reduced to a cut and dried formula.

On January 7 **George** attended the concert of **Louis Melchior** at

MAINTENANCE NOTES

GENE BECKNER

The year 1947 was ushered in with a snow storm and freezing rain which marked the first general call for Maintenance snow removal forces. We are glad to report that the organization functioned effectively under exceedingly adverse conditions, and although driving in certain portions of the State was very dangerous, traffic was maintained at all times.

Prompt action on the part of several Maintenance employees up in Passaic County recently saved a woman from drowning or other possible injury. The woman, reported to be **Mrs. Mary Reilmann** of Linden, climbed over the guard fence of the Broadway Bridge over the Passaic River, Paterson, and tried to walk into the Passaic River. She was foiled when she became stuck in the mud a short distance north of the bridge and was rescued by **Assistant Foreman Ed. Curtin** and three of his men, **Bill Smith**, **Morris Altschuler** and **Andrew Hamelink**.

Foreman Bill Pinkerton, from down Belmar way, recently gave his 27th pint of blood for transfusion purposes. The occasion was an emergency involving a Monmouth County resident living in the vicinity of the local maintenance headquarters.

Several serious accidents involving maintenance men engaged in snow removal and ice control work have occurred since the first of the year, and serve as a warning to all of us engaged in such work to exercise as much care and caution as possible under the circumstances. The fatal accident resulting in the death of **Assistant Foreman Walter Eckert** is reported elsewhere in this issue. In this same accident **Nick Mastrangelo**, of Landisville, suffered minor injuries. **Silas Wilson**, a veteran employee of the Department from Hamburg, Sussex County, sustained a broken hip in an accident on Route No. 23. Another accident which occurred on Route No. 25, in the vicinity of Iselin, resulted in a possible fractured skull of **Anthony Scampone**, of Iselin, and minor injuries for **Attilio Pesaniello**, of South Plainfield. Both of these men work for

Foreman Arthur Willmott. Also injured in an accident which occurred down in Camden County was **Dede Carter**, of Camden, who works for **Landscape Foreman John Grant**.

Warren C. Oldham, of Engineer of Permits **P. L. Voss's** inspection forces, has returned to work after being confined to his home for some time. We are glad to welcome him back, but would remind him of his doctor's orders to take things easy for a while.

Joseph Misterevich, whose discharge from military service was reported last month, returned to active duty with **Foreman Val Burger** on January 20.

Jim Dowling, of the Trenton Office, who recently made a trip to California and back without mishap, ran into trouble down Baltimore way recently when his car skidded on a slippery pavement and was seriously damaged. **Jim** suffered minor personal injuries, but one of his passengers was badly lacerated about the face and scalp and received hospital treatment.

Foreman Joseph Vizzini, of the Institutional Road forces, has been released from the hospital and is now convalescing at home. **Joe** was very seriously injured in an automobile accident some months ago, but we are glad to report that he is making a good recovery and hope to see him back on the job before long. **Homer Young**, who works in **Foreman Vizzini's** crew, has made a good recovery from an emergency appendectomy and while not yet fit to return to active duty is able to be up and around.

Charles Berz, of Hightstown, grader operator in **Foreman Earl Buckalew's** maintenance crew, is still undergoing treatment at the Veteran's Hospital, Lyons.

Fred Knight and **Michael Mazza**, of Linden and Elizabeth, respectively, have both returned to work with **Foreman Pete Lutz**, after several weeks' illness. Their return to active duty is most welcome during these busy times.

SUGGESTION BOX POINT SCORE

In the December issue of THE HIGHWAY a plan for giving certain credits to employees submitting suggestions was outlined. Future Certificate of Merit and bond awards will be based upon this point system and credit will also be allowed on efficiency ratings to a certain degree. The score from November 1 to date is shown below. Final tabulations for the year will be made as of October 31.

SUGGESTION PLAN POINT RECORD

Name	Division	Total Pts.
E. M. Gillette	Survey & Plans	4
John Carty	Maintenance	2
Edward Faller	Electrical	2
A. H. Sweet	Maintenance	1
J. B. Walter	Maintenance	1
N. A. Moetz	Maintenance	1
N. A. Smith	Construction	1
Thos. Desio	Maintenance	1
F. Carfagno	Survey & Plans	1
J. A. Best	Survey & Plans	1
Frank Strone	Maintenance	1
Frank Walsh	Maintenance	1

Newark. Next day **George** claimed that he had sung with **Mr. Melchior** and was offered a contract to sing at the Met. Could be!

The 1947 batch of calendars around the office are an improvement over last year's, although it does seem to take the boys longer to find out what day it is. The hitch-hiking blonde is the favorite.

Len Dileo's Boston terrier, "Tiny," is about to become a father.

We are happy to see **Ed Englemann** back after a week's illness.

George DeHahn missed the last step of a flight of stairs and turned his ankle. He is carrying on despite his injuries.

Our first Christmas party was a huge success.

ELECTRICAL FLASHES

JOHN KILPATRICK

The list of people vacationing during the holidays sounds like a roll call of the Division. **Chet Anderson**, **Everett Boulton**, **John Deater**, **John W. Eades**, **Eugene Farley**, **Victor Forcino**, **Iz Friedman**, **Danny Glendenning**, **Dick Goldy**, **Frank Harris**, **Russell Henry**, **E. J. Hudak**, **Champ Innocenzi**, **Hank Johnson**, **John Krol**, **Alan Leaver**, **Norm Lewis**, **Dutch Liebhich**, **Joe Mahan**, **Bill Marren**, **George Pepper**, **Marvin Polhemus**, **Tex Ranson**, **Buddy Royson**, **Mike Scarpone**, **John Snyder**, **Louis Unverzagt**, **Frank Walsh**, **Ed Waters** and **Al Wright**, all were taking it easy. In fact, the boys were in the midst of rewiring Building No. 2 at Fernwood when **Al Wright** sent them home on vacation. We understand that he has been spending several days apologizing for the error.

We want to throw some compliments to the men who installed the traffic signals at Route 25 and North Avenue, Elizabeth. Due to the unusual character of the intersection and the heavy traffic on Route 25, it was necessary to put three construction crews on the job. In spite of the difficulties, the crews under the direction of **Foreman Dick Crank**, **George McGinnin** and **Frank Walsh** made record-breaking time. It's really a credit to them.

We hear that **Major Hays** has sold most of his fishing equipment to **Carman Davis** and **Ted Spawn**. You can have just as much fun talking about the one that got away.

Richard W. Prickett, bridge operator grade III, died at his son's home in Philadelphia on January 4. **Dick** had been employed by the Highway Department since 1927. He was a member of the Ten Year Club. We extend our sympathy to the members of his family.

BRIDGE BRIEFS

GEO. HEFFERMAN

Highlights of the holiday season were the Bridge Division Club Christmas party held at the Lithuanian Club and an informal New Year's Eve party at which Mr. Goodkind was host.

Wilbur H. Spencer, chairman of the Entertainment Committee, along with Arthur Lichtenberg, Jack Koffler and Jack Evans, are working overtime to complete arrangements for the Sixteenth Annual Dinner of the Bridge Division Club to be held at the Robert Treat Hotel in Newark, Monday evening, March 10.

We shiver when we think of Jack Sheenan arising in the middle of the night to catch the 5:15 a. m. train for his North Jersey assignment.

Robert E. Simon and John H. Patrick were recently nominated for elective committee memberships in the Highway Credit Union.

Messrs. Goodkind and Shortz still are faithful devotees of the Royal and Ancient game, bowing only to snow and rain.

Ralph Titsworth and Mrs. Titsworth are vacationing at Orlando Beach, Florida.

CHATTER: Welcoming back William Clow, Jr., and John J. Koffler as members of our "Official Family"—Bill getting an assignment on Route S-3 Ruthersford, and Jack being detailed to a Newark project. . . . Listening to Mike Tristan's rich and colorful voice on the last day of '46. . . . Jack Evans making the journey to Bethlehem, Connecticut. . . . Arthur Lichtenberg receiving public commendation from the Commissioner for his loyal and arduous devotion as chairman of the Suggestion Committee. . . . Magee starting on another diet. . . . Wilbur Spencer taking a mid-winter vacation. . . . Sven Hedin visiting the site of the future permanent home of U. N. . . . This guestwriter hunting for news of our field men. . . . L. C. Peterson receiving a certificate from A. A. S. H. O. for 25 years of service. . . . Frank Wilson, a welcome visitor to the office.

Salty Goo Offers Big Challenge to Soils Experts

Bogs Bordering Route 100 Will Grow Grass If Experiments Succeed

Between Woodbridge and Raritan Bay, Route 100 will run over some of the gooiest, most evil-smelling stuff in the entire State. About the only growth that is hardy enough to live in this salty morass is a variety of cattails.

The problem of how to make this goo grow grass or other vegetation, so that the soil on either side of the Freeway will be well anchored, has been turned over to the Rutgers College of Agriculture. Dr. Firman E. Bear, head of the Soils Department, tossed the problem into the lap of Dr. Stephen J. Toth, assistant professor of soils and assistant research specialist.

After looking over acres and acres of this tar-like soil, Dr. Toth asked that a load of it be delivered to the Experimental Station where he promised to see what he could do with it. The big problem, of course, is to get rid of the salt or find some way to neutralize it.

The farmers of The Netherlands were confronted with the same problem as a result of the Nazis flooding their farmlands. Even at an earlier date they accomplished the same thing when they originally reclaimed much of their land from the sea.

Since the Dutch have many years' experience, Dr. Toth will no doubt borrow a trick or two from them in his efforts to solve the problem handed him by the State Highway Department.

CAROL SINGING AT HIGHWAY PARTY



A portion of the gathering that took part in the State Highway Christmas services in the board room of the State House Annex are shown as they sang carols in the most approved oratorio manner although it would appear that here and there a few are indulging in a little "barber shop" harmony. You will no doubt recognize most of these carolers. At the extreme right, proceeding from the bottom of the picture are: Alex W. Muir, Colonel Gray, Commander Noble, Dean Adams and Commissioner Miller.

Many Honored At Christmas Party

Employees of the Survey and Plans and Maintenance Divisions were honored at the Christmas exercises on December 24 in the State House Annex for their suggestions leading to improved departmental practice.

Commissioner Miller presented the awards to Chester A. Burn, deputy chief, Department of Design and Construction, on behalf of the Survey and Plan employees. Mr. Burn in turn made presentations to the following men:

A Certificate of Merit and a Savings Bond were awarded to Rudolf Vogel, Jr., for his suggestion on Monumenting Procedure. This suggestion led to the appointment of a committee by the Commissioner to review the entire problem of State Highway monumenting.

A Certificate of Merit and a Savings Bond were awarded to Frank Carfagno for Suggestion No. 241 on Ozalid printing machines. The Department purchased five of these machines for field office use.

Letters of Honorable Mention were awarded to the following Survey and Plans employees: Harry Fowler, for suggestion advocating "Meridian Based on Plane Coordinate System." Standard North points adopted in April, 1945, include a New Jersey Plane Coordinate System North Point for use where bearings are so referenced.

Clifford M. Somers, for suggesting "Reduction in Title Size for Construction Plans." The area devoted to the contract drawing title was reduced from 3" x 8" to 2" x 4½", with obvious advantages in space saving, and without sacrifice in legibility or required information.

Make Maintenance Awards

G. C. Jorgensen, who suggested the purchase of "L-E-Vation Rods." Use of the suggested type of rod expedites the work in that the elevation of any point is read directly while the rod is held on the point.

The awards in the Maintenance Division were presented by Mr. Alexander W. Muir, Superintendent of Maintenance, to the following men: A Certificate of Merit and a Savings Bond were awarded to David J. Rogers for suggesting "Signal in Cab of Truck." This provides a means of signalling a driver in the cab of a truck from the rear.

Letters of Honorable Mention were awarded to the following: Preston H. Gano, suggestion, "Spotlight on Rear of Truck." The suggested plan is that a spotlight be mounted to illuminate the interior of a truck body and the adjacent pavement and yet not shine the eyes of oncoming motorists.

Robert S. Green, for suggesting the appointment of a "Memorial and Monument Committee" to consider all applications for the erection of structures by others on State Highway property.

Charles H. Weller, for his design of an improved type barricade for use where men are working along the highway.

Committee Honored

Commissioner Miller presented letters of Honorable Mention to the following sub-committee on State Highway monumenting for their exhaustive study of the subject: Julius J. Newmark, chairman; Harold W. Giffin, Alex. W. Muir, Fred L. Gerard, Philip L. Voss, and R. D. Blanchard of the Department of Conservation.

Four departmental organizations generously made available the Savings Bonds awarded for meritorious suggestions.

They are: Highway Foremen's Association, James S. Taylor, president; State Bridge Employees' Association, James Lipari, president; Bridge Division Club, George A. Hefferman, president; Ten Year Club, Harold Jemison, president.

LABORATORY LINES

PEG BEATTY

Mr. and Mrs. M. K. Scheirer spent the Christmas holidays with Mrs. Scheirer's folks in Raleigh, N. C. Dutch reports the temperatures in the low 70's and then had to come back to low 20's and white stuff.

Alice Mayer is spending her vacation, plus a leave without pay, in St. Petersburg, Fla. Two whole months! Some people are sure lucky.

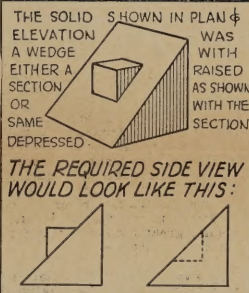
Fred Baumann thought the singing of carols the day before Christmas by the girls at the Lab was very well done—thought they might aspire for the radio. But what about a sponsor?

Abe Watov is convalescing at St. Francis Hospital following an operation. We all wish him a quick recovery.

Herb Diefenderfer has just returned from his vacation which was spent in day trips here and there.

Everyone thought it a very nice gesture for Commander Noble to visit the Lab and wish us all a Happy New Year. Many thanks, Commander.

SOLUTION TO DES. PROBLEM



INSPECTION BOWLERS WIN HONORS IN CHRISTMAS TOURNAMENT

Fernwood Guards Second in Special Competition — Office Team Third

Maybe it was the spirit of Christmas hovering over the rest of the league or maybe the inspectors just had it when the chips were down. Whatever the answer, the fact remains that when the smoke of the pre-Christmas tournament had cleared away, the last place Inspection Team had won about all the honors that weren't nailed down. Rolling 157 pins above their lowly seasonal average, these determined leggers have given the hot stove league something to talk about for many a day.

Second place in the tournament went to the Fernwood Guards who hit the wood for 110 pins above average, with Fernwood Office raising their seasonal level up 41 pins, copying third place. League leading Machine Shop, bowling an unbelievable minus 147, trailed all other teams at the tournament's conclusion.

High scores in this particular competition were turned in by Art Washburn (212), Tim Brennan (210), Jim Galvan (205), and Norm Horner (208).

Equipment in Third Spot

In the regular league matches, the Equipment Team jumped in to third place in the standings, an improvement of two places over their last month's position. They reached their present position by trouncing Fernwood Office in three straight games. Two-

John W. Aymar, Senior Right of Way agent, feels that it would be of interest to Highwaymen in general, in view of the large amount of property now being acquired by the Highway Department for new construction, if the State's rights in entering and taking private property were more generally known.

It is, of course, the Highway Department's policy to negotiate with property owners in a friendly manner with a view of entering into purchase agreements at fair prices whenever it is possible to do so prior to the letting of construction contracts. Furthermore, it is reassuring to know that the great majority of owners are most cooperative and therefore readily enter into agreements.

However, when an owner cannot be located or when title is involved, or where an agreement cannot be reached regarding price, the case is promptly referred to the Attorney General's office for the institution of condemnation proceedings. Interest on condemnation awards is paid by the State either from the date of entry or the date on which the petition is filed, whichever is the earlier. A large percentage of condemnation awards are paid before it becomes necessary to enter upon the property. However, when an emergency arises, which makes it necessary to expedite construction work, the legal rights set forth in the following decision are exercised:

Under a ruling of the Court of Errors and Appeals of New Jersey, November 19, 1923, the State or its agents has the right and power to enter upon and take property in advance of making compensation therefor, in any case where it cannot acquire land or other property by agreement with owners. It is not necessary that a condemnation petition be first filed. The resolution by the State Highway Commission authorizing the work and the actual entering upon the grounds by its agents, which includes contractors, for the purpose of constructing the highway, is equivalent to taking possession of the required land under the law, and an injunction cannot be granted to an individual restraining the State or its agent from entering upon and using the property for the purpose of constructing highways.

game winners were the G.I.'s over Maintenance Painters; Maintenance over Inspection; White Line over Machine Shop, and Electrical over the Fernwood Guards.

A new seasonal high for three games was rolled by Joe Mizur of the Machine Shop Team when he put together games of 206-190 and 225 for others to shoot at. Irv VanSant of the White Liners also took over the third spot in the seasonal high games by rolling a fine 235 score.

Other top-notch games recently rolled are Mizur 234, Brennan 230, Collins 223, Radice 221, Tuozello 208-215, Butterfoss 208, Crea 206, Horner 203, Pinteralli 201, Dunn and Clugston 200.

Maintenance and Fernwood Offices have been handicapped by the fact that Warren Oldham and Luke Meyer have been sidelined by doctors' orders. They have the best wishes of all for a speedy return to league competition.

League Standings

	W.	L.
Machine Shop	33	12
Fernwood Guards	26	19
Equipment	25	20
Electrical	24	21
White Line	24	21
Fernwood G.I.'s	24	21
Maintenance	23	22
Fernwood Office	18	27
Maint. Painters	14	31
Inspection	14	31